

Congress can help prevent tobacco use. First, Congress should pass a law that reduces the amount of nicotine put into tobacco products. Second, Congress should raise and enforce penalties on minors who smoke, and on those who sell tobacco to minors. Raising the taxes on tobacco products would only lead to more thievery and, therefore should not take place.

I hope that these essays have given Congress a better view of the tobacco problem, and I hope that they will put into effect some of the ideas these essays offer. May the Lord have His hand on this situation as we all look and pray for a better America.—Christopher Duck, eighth grade student, Visalia Christian Academy, Visalia, California

I see many store advertisements that encourage people to smoke. Thanks to our Congress, there are no gun advertisements, and Congress should be just as tough on cigarette ads. I would say that guns and tobacco are deadly weapons; one kills fast and the other kills slow. I think that Congress can do many things to keep kids from smoking. Congress and schools should make a program called "smoking detour," to keep kids from making the wrong turn. This program would take kids on a hospital tour to visit patients that are dying from cancer caused by tobacco. How sad it would be to see people with tubes stuck in their noses and pictures of rotten lungs. That sure would discourage me from smoking.

My mom and dad are the best advertisements against smoking. They don't smoke. They tell me, "if you smoke, it will kill you and it will hurt those who love you." Even though I live in a free country, where I have the freedom to smoke, I don't have the right to hurt the freedom of life. I love my family, friends, and my life too much to smoke.—Eddie Mota, fifth grade student, Panama Elementary School, Bakersfield, California

#### FAIRNESS FOR OUR NATION'S DAIRY FARMERS

#### HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced H.R. 444, the "Dairy Promotion Fairness Act," a bill that would create a little more fairness for our Nation's dairy farmers.

We have all enjoyed the recent "Got Milk?" promotions sponsored by the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board. Those commercials remind the public that milk is both good for you, and, frankly, good to have around when you're eating chocolate chip cookies.

All American dairy farmers pay into the Dairy Promotion Program. But there are a group of people who gain from the program, but don't pay for it. Importers of foreign dairy products. Whether it's cheese from France, or non-fat powdered milk from New Zealand, importers receive free advertisements of their products, paid for by our dairy producers. That just isn't fair to our farmers.

Importers of dairy products are the only commodity importers that don't pay into a promotion program. Importers of pork, beef, and cotton are all required to support their respec-

tive promotion programs. The Dairy Promotion program should not be treated differently, and our domestic dairy products should not have to subsidize the promotion of foreign dairy products. I urge all members who believe our farmers deserve fairness to support this bill.

#### IN MEMORY OF ADMIRAL HAROLD E. SHEAR

#### HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sorrow following the passing of Admiral Harold E. Shear of Groton, Connecticut on February 1, 1999. Admiral Shear served his country in the United States Navy for more than four decades and helped to create the modern ballistic missile submarine force which serves as an indispensable element of our national defense.

At age 10, Harold Shear began his long career at sea by working on his step-father's fishing boat. He entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1938. His class of midshipmen graduated five months early due to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. After a brief tour aboard a surface ship, Harold Shear joined the submarine service. Over the course of the next twenty five years, he was promoted through the chain of command in the submarine force. He served as commanding officer of the diesel-powered submarine U.S.S. *Becuna* (SS 319) and the nuclear ballistic missile sub U.S.S. *Patrick Henry* (SSBN 599). During the Cuban missile crisis Harold Shear served as ballistic missile submarine officer on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he ensured that our force was mobilized quickly in order to demonstrate to the Russians that the United States was prepared to take all steps necessary to remove offensive nuclear weapons from the island.

In 1967, Harold Shear was promoted to Rear Admiral. Throughout the early 1970s he served in a series of high-level Naval positions, including commander-in-chief of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe. In 1975, Admiral Shear was appointed Vice Chief of Naval Operations—the second highest ranking Navy officer in the nation. In his final assignment, Admiral Shear served as commander-in-chief of Allied Forces in southern Europe. He retired from the Navy in 1980.

Admiral Harold Shear served his country with honor and distinction in the Navy for more than forty years. However, he continued to serve his community well after retirement. He played a crucial role in an effort joined by many across southeastern Connecticut to revitalize the port of New London. Admiral Shear worked closely with me and others to convince the Navy to transfer State Pier to Connecticut. Then, he pushed the State to rebuild it and convert it into an international commercial center. Thanks to Admiral Shear's dedication, the Pier today is busy with activity as goods from across Connecticut and New England are loaded onto ships bound for destinations across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, Admiral Harold Shear was an American hero. He defended this nation during

some of the darkest hours of our history. He was one of the architects and chief strategists of the modern ballistic missile submarine force. He was an advocate for maritime trade. Having been awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry in action and Navy Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star along with many other honors, it is entirely fitting that Admiral Shear will be buried with other great Americans in Arlington National Cemetery. The nation says goodbye to a great leader while southeastern Connecticut bids farewell to friend and neighbor.

#### THE WAGE GAP

#### HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I call upon this Congress to address a major concern of single mothers, working women and working families. The wage gap in America between men and women has been overlooked for far too long.

While women in America have made great strides in the workplace, on average, they earn only 75 cents to a man's dollar.

This issue goes beyond simply ensuring what is equal and right, and has long-lasting economic impacts on our society. While more and more women have become the primary source of family income, the total amount of wages women lost last year due to pay inequity was over \$130 billion.

Single mothers and working families realize the entire family would be better off if women were being paid what they are worth and have rightly earned.

This Congress can continue the commitment to equality by removing the economic barriers which hinder too many women and their families.

That is why I have decided to co-sponsor the "Paycheck Fairness Act", sponsored by Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro. I urge all members of the Congress, and all my fellow Americans to recognize and address this very serious issue.

#### HONESTY IN BUDGETING ACT

#### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Honesty in Budgeting Act." This is an important bill that I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting.

Right now, the public and elected officials alike are confused about our federal budget. Both President Clinton and the Republican Congressional leadership said we had a budget surplus last year, but the national debt still increased. The public asked, how could we have a surplus but still increase the debt? That is a good question.

The answer is that we didn't really have a surplus last year. We had a \$29 billion deficit